

REMARKS

The Examiner has maintained the rejection of claims 1-2, 5, 8, 12, 16, 22, 25 and 27 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over King et al. in view of Zhu et al. and further in view of Seaman et al. for the reasons set forth therein. The Examiner has acknowledged that the cited references may perhaps be unable to meet all of the limitations contained in the claims as previously presented.

Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 16, 22, 23, 25, and 27 to include the limitation that any one of the plurality of images may be located in any position in said plurality of different page layouts. What this means is that any one particular image can be located anywhere on the page, for example, as illustrated in Figs. 8 and 9 of the present application, the page layout of Fig. 8 indicates image 60 as being in the right hand corner and image 56 being in the lower left center area of the page layout, whereas Fig. 9, a different page layout illustrates the image 60 as being located at the lower left and the image 56 is located at a particular location on the page layout. Quite the contrary, any of the individual images maybe moved to any particular location. The King et al. reference fails to teach or suggest such a modification. As illustrated by Figs. 8-12 of King et al, there are predefined location for each of the images to be located. See also Col. 17 line 55 to Col 18 line14.

The present invention is directed to a method, system and software product for organizing a plurality of digital images into a particular page format and in an aesthetically pleasing manner. Not only is it important to have the images appropriately positioned on a page, it is also important to provide appropriate spacing of the images so as to provide an aesthetically pleasing presentation. Thus, it is not merely squeezing a number of images on a page in a predetermined pattern, but placing the images on a page in a manner that is designed to achieve a an aesthetically pleasing result.

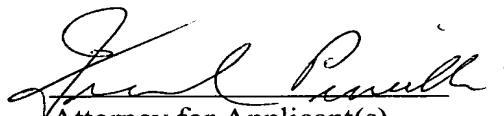
The Zhu et al reference does not add anything toKing et al. that would render applicant claimed invention obivious. in particular the Zhu reference use predetermined layoyt patterns, see Figs. 2 & 3, and the Zhue specification at Page 2a ;ines 27-29 and page 3 lines 27- 35. Zhu et al, as King et al, fails to teach or suggest that any one of the plurality of images may be located in any position in said plurality of different page layouts as claimed by applicant.

The Seaman ('306) reference cited by the examiner does not anything that would render applicants claimed invention obvious. The '306 reference also fails to teach or suggest the invention of amended claims as the '306 also fails to disclose that any one of the plurality of images may be located in any position in said plurality of different page layouts as claimed by applicants.

The examiner has also rejected numerous claims under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious for the reasons set forth therein. All of these rejection are based on either the King et al. The additional cited reference fails to teach or suggest anything that would the claimed inventions obvious for the same reasons previously discussed. None of the additional references teach or suggest that any one of the plurality of images may be located in any position in said plurality of different page layouts.

In view of the foregoing it is respectfully submitted that the claims in their present form are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.